

## GREENS CREEK MINE ADMIRALTY ISLAND

The Greens Creek Mine is a Joint Venture between Kennecott Minerals and Hecla Mining Company.

The ore body was discovered in 1975. Exploration drilling began in 1978, initial mine development in 1987, and full production in 1989. The mine was closed in 1993 due to low metal prices, and has been reopened since 1996 after completion of mine development work.

The operation consists of an underground mine that delivers a polymetallic (silver, zinc, gold, and lead) ore to a surface mill and concentrator, which in turn produces three separate concentrates. These concentrates are shipped to various smelters throughout the world on a regular basis.



Hawk Inlet Camp and concentrate loading facilities

With a projected 17-year mine life, Greens Creek is one of the nation's largest silver producers. The operation has a designed mining and processing rate of 1,320 tons per day. In 1997, the operation produced approximately 9 million ounces of silver, 46,000 ounces of gold, 34,000 tons of zinc and 15,000 tons of lead in concentrate and doré bars. Current ore reserves contain recoverable metals estimated at 82 million ounces of silver, 628,000 ounces of gold, 675,000 tons of zinc and 225,000 tons of lead. In 1999 Greens Creek produced 573,000 tons of ore with an average grade of 24 oz/ton silver, 14% zinc, 0.20 oz/ton gold and 6% lead. The concentrator averaged 1,580 tons per day throughput and produced 77,000 tons of zinc concentrate, 42,000 tons of lead concentrate and 71,000 tons of bulk concentrate.

Greens Creek Mine is located on Admiralty Island, near Juneau, Alaska, in the Tongass National Forest which stretches 500 miles along the southeastern coast of Alaska. It embraces hundreds of islands, majestic mountains, sparkling glaciers, and deep fiords. It is the largest and most intact temperate rainforest in the world, containing 29% of the unlogged temperate rainforest remaining on the planet. Traveling the Tongass' famed "Inside Passage" is one of America's dream vacations.



Tongass is home for the world's largest concentrations of bald eagles, grizzly bears, and Sitka black-tailed deer. Greens Creek Mine works hand in hand with local, state and federal government agencies to ensure that the wilderness of Tongass is preserved for future generations.



(continued on page 15)

# EDITORIAL

One of the primary Anchorage jokes in Fairbanks is "What's the best thing about Anchorage?" Answer - You can be in Alaska in 30 minutes. To say there is a rivalry between the two cities is an understatement. Now with the Iditarod getting its restart in Fairbanks, this must be a blow to Anchorage's pride, and Wasilla's economy.

Since the Iditarod was originally intended to commemorate the serum run from Nenana to Nome, a more fitting location to hold the restart would have been Nenana. However, I think the race officials needed that mileage from Fairbanks to Nenana to make the race an appropriate, approximate distance.

Now let's be honest. The only thing that Anchorage had to do with the serum run is that the serum was put on a train to Nenana for the relay by dog team to Nome.

In all fairness to the Iditarod founders and current organizers, they took the ball, ran with it, and created a great event. To their credit, much emphasis is now placed on the actual Iditarod Trail. I had to hunt the Iditarod's website for the statement, "While the race officially commemorates the 1925 Serum Run to Nome, it is really a reconstruction of the freight route to Nome." This acknowledgment of the Trail is as it should be. The historical aspects of the Trail, and the rigors of the race are worthy by themselves, without trying to hang their hat on another event that was really unrelated.

Our sympathies do go out to those in the Banana Belt (Wasilla) who will miss out on the restart. But there are other benefits. Hey, Skip, is the golf course open?

Editor - Dick Hanscom

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Yukon Correspondent - Jim Robb

Scandinavian Correspondent - Jorgen Somod

Subscription Rates: (all first class or airmail)

United States -	\$15 per year
Canada -	\$18 per year
Elsewhere -	\$35 per year

Collector's Advertising Rates:

1 page - \$15    1/2 page - \$8    1/4 page - \$5

1/8 page (business card size) - \$15 for 5 issues

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# ALASKA & YUKON STOCKS AND BONDS



Our book *Alaska & Yukon Stocks and Bonds* is in stock and ready for immediate shipment.

The book is 344 pages with over 700 listings and over 500 photos. It is fully indexed, with two different indexes. Appendixes include listings of incorporated companies known to have done business in Alaska, but not represented in the listings.

The price is \$35 postpaid via bookrate. The book can be shipped via priority mail for an additional \$8. Please send orders to Alaska Rare Coins, P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.

## PRICES REALIZED

Selected prices realized from eBay:

<b>Dillingham</b> , Bradford, B-1a	235.83
<b>Gambier Bay</b> , Hoonah Pkg. B-1b	883.00
<b>N.C. Co.</b> , MC, B-3a	382.00
<b>Quinhagak</b> , Pauline Jean, B-1a	53.21
<b>Skagway</b> , B of T, B-4c	1025.00
<b>Tenakee</b> , Tillicum, B-5b	133.51
<b>Yakutat</b> , Monty Bay, B-1a	1025.00
<b>Maverick</b> , The Tanana, 5¢ in trade, 19mm	154.50
<b>Greenland, Thule</b> , 5 Ore	53.00
<b>Greenland, Thule</b> , 25 Ore	62.52
<b>Greenland, Thule</b> , 100 Ore	73.00
<b>Greenland, Thule</b> , 500 Ore	84.52



## GREENS CREEK, CONT.

In 1998 the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the National Mining Association awarded The Greens Creek Mine the prestigious national Sentinels of Safety award for achieving excellence in safety performance in the Underground Metal Mine Category.



Aerial photo of the processing plant.

At Kennecott Greens Creek Mining Company, our success in protecting the health and safety of employees is a key indicator of operational performance. This health and safety responsibility is woven into our operating philosophy, which was demonstrated by a 1999 lost-time accident rate that was less than half of the national average for underground mines.

Each year Kennecott Minerals publishes a Social and Environmental Report, which outlines the policies, practices and sophisticated technology that, combined with the input of industry, government and local communities, ensures that each Kennecott Minerals operation across the country meets or exceeds national standards for protection of the environment while operating in a socially responsible manner.

Ed. Note: This article is a combination of two web sites: <http://www.greencreek.com> and <http://www.kennecottminerals.com/mines/greens.html>, used with permission.

A nice one ounce silver medal is shown on the front page. A 10 ounce silver bar appeared on eBay some time ago noting 2 years of no lost time incidents, above right.

In the photo on the front page, the building with the white roof on the shoreline next to the dock is the old cannery, presumably P.E. Harris & Co. They had canneries at Hawk Inlet and False Pass. See the January 1989 issue of ATC&PN, page 4, for a little information on P.E. Harris & Co.



Actual size, 89mm x 52mm



### OLDEST ALASKA DRINK TOKEN?

From Mason's Coin Collectors' Magazine, 1872, reprinted in The Numismatist August, 1972.

"There were two varieties of Schnaps money, one good for a full drink and the other for a half drink. These schnaps marks were abolished several years since. The officers of the late Russian American Fur Company were, by contract, entitled to a certain number of drinks, according to their rank and station. The number of marks varied from thirty to ninety drinks per month, paid together with the salary, entitling the receiver to the stipulated daily number of drinks at a certain bar established for this purpose. The half pieces were given to Indians." (submitted by Kurtis Hawk)

A very early account, only 5 years after the Purchase!

# ***TOKEN SNAPSHOTS***



The Fairview Hotel was a prominent business on Fairbanks' waterfront. The Nordale Hotel was adjacent (in these views behind) to the Fairview. The photo at the top shows some sort of festivities, our guess is for a Fourth of July celebration. The bottom photo shows the first Nordale Hotel fire of 1923. The Nordale was rebuilt on Second Ave., and burned down in 1972.



The tokens from the Fairview Hotel are what we refer to as "hoard" tokens. Years ago, we purchased a good quantity of these from a bottle digger here in Fairbanks. Like all good bottle diggers, she was not about to divulge where they were dug up. In one of the major errors in "Alaska Tokens", a 12½¢ token is listed at \$25, while the 25¢ token is listed at \$100. Unfortunately, we have no knowledge of the 12½¢ token, and the 25¢ token is the hoard token.

We offer these in three qualities, represented by the samples above, from top to bottom: 1) All letters legible but corroded, very limited quantities: **\$45.00.** 2) Fairview Hotel side legible, but more corrosion, reverse worse: **\$25.00.** 3) Identifiable - parts of the lettering unreadable: **\$10.00.** Please include \$3 per order for postage and insurance. Buyers known to us can request shipment on approval.

With precision grading like this, how can you go wrong? Please keep in mind that these are "dug" tokens, and all will exhibit some corrosion.

Unsatisfactory items may be returned for a refund (less postage).





# FOR THE RECORD



**BETHEL:** Hustlebuggy, Inc., good for one fare. Brass, 23mm. No longer in use.



**BETHEL:** Bethel Lions Club, 25th Anniversary, 1962 to 1987, one ounce pure silver.



**KENAI:** Keen-Eye Joes, 1973, 50¢ in trade. From eBay, approximately 29mm, appears to be black on white.



**FAIRBANKS:** Sunset Inn, Good for one drink, black on wood.



**FAIRBANKS:** The Pump House, good for a cocktail of your choice, black on wood.



**ANCHORAGE:** (above left) 21st Annual Communication, M.W. Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska, 2002. Bronze, 38.5mm.

**FAIRBANKS:** (above right) 22nd Annual Communication, M.W. Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska, 2003. Bronze, 38mm.



Two very nice high relief medals from the Longines Symphonette Society are offered in sterling silver. Total weight is over one ounce each. These are priced at only \$10 each plus \$3 shipping per order. Only one of each in stock, so we would recommend a phone call to reserve these.

# ALASKA RARE COINS

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**AUCTION:** TO BE HELD AT 7:00 P.M., APRIL 12<sup>th</sup> IN FAIRBANKS. These are just the Alaskan items. If you want a complete listing, please call or write to the address above. Phone bids may be called in between 10:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday to Saturday (noon on the day of the auction). Bids will also be accepted at the e-mail address above.

## ALASKAN TOKENS & MEDALS

## ESTIMATE

- 221 **Alaska Tokens: Anchorage**, Anchorage Dairy, Good for 1 Pint and 1 Quart, B-7a,b, AU. The 1 Pint is scarce. 2 pcs. 50.00+
- 222 **Alaska Token: Chatanika**, Bingle Fritz (Welch) 50¢ in trade, B-1b, VF or better. A very popular bi-metal. 100.00
- 223 **Alaska Token: Cordova**, Cordova House, Take me to Harry and Charley, 5¢ in trade, B-14a, VF, dark spots. Scarce. 100.00
- 224 **Alaska Tokens: Elmendorf A.F.B.**, Civilian Club, 5, 10, 25¢ and \$1, B-1 a,b,c,f, all AU/BU. Four pieces. 40.00
- 225 **Alaska Tokens: Gambell**, Reindeer Commercial Company, 1 Cent to 50 Cents in trade, B-1, a to e, F to XF. Very popular and affordable "Cents" denominations from this remote island community. Five tokens. 50.00
- 226 **Alaska Tokens: Hoonah**, Hoonah Packing Company, 5,10,25 and 50¢ and \$1 in trade. B-1 a-e, F to XF. The 50¢ is the variety I. Five tokens. 125.00
- 227 **Alaska Tokens: Ketchikan**, R + C Pioneer Bar Cardroom, 10, 25 and 100 Points, B-44 b,d,e. All AU. 3 pcs. 20.00
- 228 **Alaska Tokens: Noorvik**, Noorvik Cooperative Store; 10, 25 and 50 cents and \$1 in trade, B-1, b to e. Missing the scarce 5¢ and \$5 tokens. Four tokens. 30.00
- 229 **Alaska Tokens: Savoonga**, Reindeer Commercial Company, 1 Cent to 50 Cents in trade, B-1, a to e. The companion tokens to the Gambell tokens offered above. Savoonga is the other village on St. Lawrence Island. 5 tokens. 35.00
- 230 **Alaska Tokens: Assortment of \$1 trade tokens**. Includes; **Bethel**, Olson Bros., B-3c; **Ketchikan**, "P" (Pioneer) 100 "Points", B-41c; T & M Pioneer Pool Hall 100 "Points", B-46c (these could not say Dollar as they were used for gambling); **Kodiak**, Mecca Bar 49 Room, B-9b; **Mountain Village**, Sheppard Trading Co., Inc., B-1c; **Noorvik**, Noorvik Cooperative Store, B-1e; **Teller**, Teller Commercial Co., B-3d. A nice grouping of seven \$1 tokens. 70.00+
- 231 **"Carl Parker" 1 oz. Gold Medal**, 1976, used as a pendant with what appears to be a handmade gold bezel. These pure one troy ounce medals have had an interesting and controversial history. Parker was a local Fairbanksan who sold these in the late 70s. The obverse has a mountain or hill depicted. Some say it is Money Knob hill near Livengood. The reverse is similar to the Morgan Dollar. Minted by the Northwest Territorial Mint in Washington state in 1976. A neat piece of Alaska exnumia. 450.00
- 232 **Placer Miners of Alaska Silver Medals**. In 1980, the Placer Miners of Alaska issued one ounce gold and .55 ounce silver medals. The silver medals were this odd weight because they were made to the same diameter and thickness as the one ounce gold medal. These were made by the World Wide Mint. There were 200 of the silver medals struck and 50 gold. In 1987, 50 more gold and 200 more silver were struck, followed in 1990 by the minting of an additional 100 silver medals. The silver medals struck in 1987 and 1990 were a full ounce. We offer here a pair of silver medals: the .55 ounce and the full one ounce. These are quite scarce, and rarely become available. 50.00+
- 233 **University of Alaska Silver Medals**. During the mid-1980s, the UAF Museum embarked on a program to issue a series of medals. After overcoming some difficulties, the first medal was completed by artist Jim Belke with the Woolly Mammoth on the obverse. 2,000 were authorized, but only about 1450 were struck, not sequentially numbered, this being #692. The second and final medal was the Riverboat Nenana with about 850 struck (again, not sequentially), this being #1108. Two pieces. 50.00
- 234 **Iditarod Error Silver Medals**. With the Iditarod in Fairbanks this year, we were reminded of these fascinating errors. In the early 90s, the firm that had the contract with the Iditarod committee would make medals "to order." They would not strike the entire 2,000 authorized at one, but only as they received orders, and not necessarily in the year of issue. These particular medals were struck with the wrong dies stating "5,000" struck instead of the authorized 2,000. Marwest, the issuing company had to issue a letter acknowledging the error stating that (152) 1990, (25) 1991, and (25) 1992 were minted incorrectly. This lot contains one of each date. Also included is a commemorative one ounce silver medal for the 1996 **Big Lake Fire**. Don't miss this opportunity



**ALASKANA, cont.****ESTIMATE**

- 235 **Official State of Alaska Silver Medals.** Includes: (2) 1990 and (2) 1994 one ounce medals. The 1990 appear to be proof-like and have a stylized walrus, while the 1994 medals have a bear and are proof in the original cases. Current retail for these is \$580 from the latest Alaska Mint catalogue. Four pieces. 100.00+
- 236 **Official State of Alaska Silver Medal, 1992, proof.** This is the key to the Proof one ounce silver set. The Alaska Mint (then called the Anchorage Mint) received the contract to make the state medals late in the year, and only minted 3,457 of these. This was also the year that the Eagle design was used. Currently, these list at \$450 in their catalogue. Housed in hard case, serial number 2,583. 350.00+
- 237 **Alaska Highway 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1992.** Struck by the Alaska Mint, it features a map of Alaska and trucks on the obverse. We have seen prices as high as \$150 on this one. Encapsulated, without original case. 50.00+
- 238 **35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Alaska Statehood, 1994.** While not one of the "big" anniversaries, nevertheless, the Alaska Mint struck one ounce silver medals to commemorate it. Actually very attractive with caribou, Alaska native face and US and Alaska flags. We did not sell these at the time. This is the first to come in the store! 30.00
- 239 **Official State of Alaska Silver Medals, 1994.** The design for this year was the grizzly bear. This lot includes the one ounce P/L (5,665 minted) and the ¼ ounce (1,550 minted). The Alaska Mint currently lists the one ounce @ \$100. 75.00+
- 240 **"The Fairbanks Dog Races" by Buck Landru, 1948.** By the author of "The Blue Parka Man," this is a small paper bound publication of only 16 pages. It gives a brief history of dog races, and then a chart of the winner's of the Fairbanks races from 1927 to 1947. A very scarce publication, the only one we have seen. Condition is a bit soiled and stained, with some water damage. This said, it really is not as bad as that sounds. Sure to bring strong bids from several of our mail bidders, personally we hope that a local bidder will keep it in Fairbanks! 50.00+
- 241 **"The Alaskan Homesteaders Handbook," Vol. I, number 1, Collectors Issue, no date, circa 1979.** Very large, paperbound publication with a plethora of information about homesteading in Alaska. How to do it, where to go, photos and maps, but appears to have more information on activities other than homesteading. Also included is a booklet **Welcome to Palmer**, a color newspaper-like publication **All About Alaska**, and the Feb. 14, 1969 issue of the **Tundra Times** newspaper. Finally, **"Alaska's Land Facts & Issues,"** by the League of Women Voters, 1974. A total of 5 pieces. 40.00+
- 242 **"This Alaska" magazine, 8 issues.** This appears to have been a competitor to the Alaska Sportsman, later Alaska magazine. The issues included are: April, September and October, 1970; January, April, May, June/July, and September, 1971. Content ranges from current events to historical. About 36 or more pages each. 40.00+
- 243 **Miscellaneous magazines.** Includes (2) **Alaska Today**, published annually by the Journalism Dept. at UAF, 1974 and 1983 editions; **Alaska Native News**, January 1983; **Alaska Northern Lights**, Vol. I, No. 1, no date; **Alaska** magazine, Dec. 1993/January 1994; (2) **Alaska Journal**, Winter 1973 and Summer 1985, great historical content; **Alaska-Oil and the Environment**, colorful pictorial magazine-like publication of Atlantic Richfield Company (cover loose); **Fairbanks** magazine, 1988, published by the Lens Unlimited, Stu Rothman. A great lot of nine magazines with articles on history, art, the economy and just about any other subject that could be vaguely Alaska-related. 45.00+



Because of poor snow conditions in the south-central part of the state of Alaska, the ceremonial start of the Iditarod was to be in Anchorage as is the custom, but the restart, usually held in Wasilla, was moved to Fairbanks this year. The restart was held on the Chena River near the airport (there is open water near downtown Fairbanks). The mushers proceeded down the Chena to the Tanana, and then on to Nenana. From Nenana, the route will continue to follow the Tanana River to Manly and Tanana where it joins the Yukon River. The route follows the Yukon River to Ruby, where

it will head south to Ophir, where it will join the traditional southern route used in odd numbered years.

We are pleased to offer the official medals of the 2003 Iditarod as follows:

Silver with gold relief; suggested retail \$59.99. **Our price - \$55.00.**

Silver Proof, suggested retail \$34.99. **Our price - \$30.00.**

Please add \$3 for postage and insurance per order.

Send orders to: Alaska Rare Coins, P.O. Box 72832, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.